

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 54

By Henry

A RESOLUTION to honor Dr. David C. George on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee has been exceptionally fortunate during its history to benefit from the outstanding leadership provided by those committed Ministers of the Gospel who lead churches across this State and who, along with their congregations, provide the bedrock strength that defines an orderly and just society; and

WHEREAS, Dr. David C. George, who faithfully served as Pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Nashville for thirty-one years, is one such servant of the Lord, who recently retired after many praiseworthy years in the ministry; and

WHEREAS, in honor of his years of service to the good people of Immanuel Baptist Church, Dr. George was celebrated by his congregation at a recognition dinner on October 4, 2006; and

WHEREAS, ordained by his home church, Trinity Baptist in San Antonio, Texas, David C. George earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Howard Payne University in 1960 and his Bachelor of Divinity degree and Doctor of Theology degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1963 and 1968; he pursued further study at Vanderbilt University Divinity School in 1981 and Regent's Park College, Oxford, England, in 2001 and 2004; and

WHEREAS, prior to his distinguished tenure at Immanuel Baptist Church, Dr. George served as Pastor of First Baptist Church in Stuttgart, Arkansas; Assistant to the Pastor at First Baptist Church in Shreveport, Louisiana; and Pastor at Willow Point Baptist Church in Jack County, Texas; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his many years of service to individual congregations, Dr. George has been an important and active part of the larger church: he has served as a member

of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and the Education Committee of the Executive Board; moderator of the Nashville Baptist Association; and member of the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention; and

WHEREAS, Dr. George has further served as a trustee of Belmont University, an adjunct teacher of New Testament Introduction at Belmont University and Philosophy of Religion at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Nashville Center, the Pastor in Residence of the George W. Truett Theological Seminary at Baylor University, and as a member of the John Newport Society; and

WHEREAS, Dr. David C. George has been actively involved in his community through many civic and religious organizations, including the Hillsboro High School Athletic Booster Club, which he served as treasurer, and the Covenant Association, an interdenominational ministers group; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Dr. George has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues and his congregations; and

WHEREAS, true to family values of the highest order, Dr. David C. George is deeply devoted to his wife, Peggy Ratliff; children, Jennifer, Andrew, and Michael; and grandchildren, Lindsey and Madison Low; and

WHEREAS, throughout his years of service in the ministry, Dr. George has created and nurtured a community of service to God, and he has earned the utmost gratitude from the wonderful congregations that he has served; and

WHEREAS, wholly committed to serving God and humanity, Dr. George lives a life marked by a deep spirituality and an unblemished integrity that has earned him the unbridled respect and admiration of his peers in the ministry and the members of his congregation; and

WHEREAS, Dr. David C. George exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to God, family, and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean, and it is appropriate that we pay homage to him; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, that we honor Dr. David C. George upon the occasion of his retirement from Immanuel Baptist Church, thank him for his many years of committed service to God and humankind, and offer our best wishes for much happiness during his years of retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.